

BOBBY JINDAL  
GOVERNOR



KAREN STUBBS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
CHILDREN'S CABINET

STATE OF LOUISIANA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

January 31, 2011

The Honorable Bobby Jindal  
Governor, State of Louisiana  
P.O. Box 94004  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9004

The Honorable Willie L. Mount  
Chair, Senate Health and Welfare Committee  
P.O. Box 94183  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

The Honorable Kay Kellogg Katz  
Chair, House Health and Welfare Committee  
P.O. Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

**RE: Annual Report – Louisiana Children's Cabinet**

Dear sir or madam:

The Louisiana Children's Cabinet is a thirteen-member body composed of agency secretaries, legislative members, and community leaders and created by R.S. 46:2600-2607. Its primary purpose is to coordinate policy, planning, delivery, and budgeting affecting programs and services for children and families. Enclosed is a copy of the annual report as required by R.S. 46:2603.

If you would like further information, please contact me at (225) 342-3327.

Sincerely,

Karen Stubbs  
Executive Director, Louisiana Children's Cabinet  
Office of the Governor

Enclosure.

**ANNUAL REPORT  
LOUISIANA CHILDREN'S CABINET  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

***CHILDREN'S CABINET***

***History and Purpose***

Louisiana Children's Cabinet was created in 1992, reauthorized in 1<sup>st</sup> extraordinary session 1998 (Act 5), again with the juvenile justice reform legislation in 2003 (Act 245) and in 2008 (Act 780). R.S. 46:2600 through 2607, the Louisiana Children's Cabinet was created as a state agency within the Office of the Governor to facilitate and coordinate policies and budgeting affecting programs and services for children and their families. The Cabinet's primary function is to coordinate children's policy across five departments that provide services for young people: Department of Education, Department of Health and Hospitals, Department of Children and Family Services, Louisiana Workforce Commission, and Office of Juvenile Justice.

The Children's Cabinet met twice in 2010, once in February and once in October. The minutes for these minutes are attached.

***Membership, as of December 31, 2010***

- **Curt Eysink**, Director, Louisiana Workforce Commission
- **Paul Rainwater**, Commissioner, Division of Administration
- **Keith Guice**, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
- **Judge Andrea Janzen**, Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- **Bruce Greenstein**, Secretary, Department of Health and Hospitals
- **Mary Livers**, Deputy Secretary, Office of Juvenile Justice
- **Stephen Moret**, Secretary, Department of Economic Development
- **Ruth Johnson**, Secretary, Department of Children and Family Services
- **Paul Pastorek**, Superintendent, Department of Education
- **Karen Stubbs**, Executive Director, Children's Cabinet
- **Dr. Stewart Gordon**, Chair, Children's Cabinet Advisory Board
- **Representative Patrick Williams**, Louisiana House of Representatives

***STATE LEVEL PARTNERSHIPS AND PROJECTS***

***Systems of Care Initiative***

Coordinated Systems of Care is an initiative of Governor Jindal being led by the Office of Juvenile Justice, Department of Social Services, Department of Health and Hospitals and the Department of Education. The coordinated systems of care (CSoC) is an evidence-based model that is part of a national movement to develop family-driven and youth-guided care, and to keep children at home, in school, and out of the child welfare and juvenile justice system. An important CSoC goal is the reduction of highly restrictive out of home placements through the creation and maintenance of coordinated and effective community based services. Louisiana's CSoC will initially serve children and youth that have significant behavioral health challenges or co-occurring disorders that are in or at imminent risk of out of home placement.

In preparation of System of Care implementation, the Executive Director of the Children's Cabinet and grant Project Coordinator have previously served on the Coordinated System of Care Information Technology and Utilization Management workgroups. Currently, they are members of the Governance workgroup which has been charged to research legislation necessary for implementation as well as review any legal restrictions to data sharing faced by the Departments of Education, Children and Family Services, Health and Hospitals, and the Office of Juvenile Justice.

Karen Stubbs was the chairperson for the Family Engagement Committee. This committee distributed and collected hundreds of written surveys for parents all over the state and presented the feedback from a parental perspective of the current system. Additionally, this committee organized small in person parent forums in 5 areas of the state and several youth forums in different locations statewide.

#### *BrightStart and Early Childhood Advisory Council*

Started in 2004, BrightStart has been a federally funded initiative through the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) grant from the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, Maternal and Child Health Program has administered these MCHB funds and has contracted with the Tulane Institute of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health to coordinate and lead this effort since the project's inception.

In December 2009, Governor Jindal designated BrightStart to serve as Louisiana's Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC). The ECAC is charged under federal law to develop and implement a plan to improve the coordination of programs and services for children birth to school entry. The federal stimulus package in 2009 made funding available to states for their ECAC's.

In 2010, BrightStart submitted Louisiana's ECAC grant application for \$2.1 million to the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. The application was approved and Louisiana will receive the requested funding over a three-year period from ARRA for the ECAC to help build an early childhood system. The required state match of \$5 million is being met through the School Readiness Tax Credits. The grant period is September 1, 2010 – August 31, 2013.

The funding for BrightStart includes the federal ECCS grant that continues to be administered by the state's Maternal and Child Health Program in the Office of Public Health. The designated lead agency for the ECAC grant is the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services.

BrightStart submits semi-annual reports to the Children's Cabinet including a report on July 31, 2010. The next BrightStart report will be submitted by January 31, 2011.

#### *Early Childhood System Integration Budget (ECSIB) and Children's Budget*

Louisiana now has its first official Early Childhood System Integration Budget (ECSIB), which is defined by statute.<sup>1</sup> The ECSIB is organized along the original four components of BrightStart (access to health care, social-emotional development and mental health, early care and education, and family support and parenting education) as opposed to by department, thus detailing the state's allocation of financial resources for children ages birth to five in these areas. Within these four areas, each state department categorizes program specific information, including the lead contact person, a very brief program description (1-3 sentences), the population served, the sources of funding for the program, and the parishes being served. For each line item, actual state and federal dollars invested in the program are detailed. The first official ECSIB is now complete, and includes both the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 fiscal years. The ECSIB is compiled by the Division of Administration in conjunction with BrightStart and Louisiana Children's Cabinet and is available on the Division's web site at [http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/OPB/pub/other\\_budget\\_docs.htm](http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/OPB/pub/other_budget_docs.htm). The ECSIB is a key policy document that will add critical information to inform the ongoing work to build a comprehensive early childhood system.

Additionally, the governor's executive budget shall include an addenda encompassing the governor's recommended children's budget which shall be a compilation and listing of the recommended budgets contained in the various schedules of the executive budget for all departments, agencies, programs, and activities for children and their families. The General Appropriation Act enacted by the legislature shall include the children's budget. This shall be a separate section of the Act which shall include a compilation and listing of all appropriations contained in the various schedules and appropriations in the Act which are for services and programs for children and their families as well as the cost estimates of all nonappropriated elements of the budget.

During the 2010 Regular Legislative Session, Mr. Peter LaFleur from Division of Administration and DOA's representative on the Advisory Board and Karen Stubbs, Director of the Children's Cabinet, testified before the Senate Finance Committee on both the children's budget in HB1 and the ECSIB. In preparation to this testimony on the children's budget, Mr. LaFleur worked diligently to correct issues that had never before been addressed. In the past, the Children's Budget in HB 1 remained static from the recommended budget to the adopted budgets, never being updated with HB1. Mr. LaFleur was able to compile comparisons of the FY 09-10 executive budget as it existed on December 1, 2009, and the 2010-2011 recommended children's budget. The adopted 2010 children's budget was also updated after the legislative session. The ability to compare budget changes was well received by the committee and is a useful tool.

#### *MacArthur Models for Change Grant Award*

In November of 2009, the Children's Cabinet in the Office of the Governor received notice that the Cabinet was to receive a grant from the MacArthur Foundation totaling \$250,000. The grant was to begin January 1, 2010 with an estimated completion date of December 31, 2011. However the initial set of funds, totaling \$125,000 were not

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<sup>1</sup> Louisiana Revised Statutes 46:2604.

received by the Governor's Office until March of 2010, and the grant's Project Coordinator, Tiffany Simpson, Ph.D., was not hired until June 1, 2010. The grant consists of three concentrations including statewide data sharing among child serving agencies, model recommendations to the Families in Need of Services program, and enhancements to Children and Youth Planning Boards.

In October 2011, the State of Louisiana will transition to a Coordinated System of Care for all children in or at imminent risk for out of home placement. The Children's Cabinet, under the auspices of the Models for Change grant has two primary objectives in its involvement in the transition process. Its first role is to determine the scope of integrating youth servicing agency data as well as determine the responsibilities and obstacles each agency faces. Second, the Children's Cabinet will work to establish an infrastructure plan for housing the data warehouse and necessary interfaces for execution.

Through technical assistance provided by the MacArthur Foundation's National Resource Bank members, the Governor's office has gathered a wealth of information on model data sharing initiatives across the country. This information has been summarized into reports and presentations comparing various aspects of the data sharing systems of Florida, Illinois, South Carolina, and Washington including data storage, data availability, reporting capabilities, and funding sources.

In Louisiana, the Families in Need of Services program provides services to status offenders and their families. Youth can be referred to FINS for any of 11 behaviors including truancy, violation of school rules, ungovernable behavior, possession or consumption of alcohol, and being under the age of 10 at the time of committing a felony offense. In Louisiana, there are no specific guidelines as to how a FINS office must function, resulting in no uniformity in services. As part of its work in the Models for Change Initiative, the Children's Cabinet has established three objectives. First, identify short term issues and barriers related to implementation of a model status offender program in Louisiana as well as explore solutions. Secondly, the Children's Cabinet will research areas of legislative reform necessary to implement a best practice status offender model in Louisiana. Last, the Cabinet will recommend areas of programmatic reform necessary to implement a best practice status offender model in the state.

In June, the Children's Cabinet began the process of gathering information on model status offender programs both nationally and within the state. This data was summarized into reports and presentations to the Governor's Office staff and the System of Care Governance workgroup. Additionally, Karen Stubbs, Executive Director of the Louisiana Children's Cabinet attended the MacArthur Foundation Models for Change Families in Need of Services Summit in Chicago, Illinois, held in June. Representatives from Connecticut, Florida, and Orange County, New York travelled to Chicago to discuss their FINS models. Rapides Parish Models for Change grantees, the Louisiana Lead Entity, and Models for Change National Resource Bank members were also in attendance.

In October, the Louisiana Models for Change FINS Advisory workgroup was established. This workgroup includes the Children's Cabinet, Secretary of the Office of Juvenile

Justice, the Louisiana Lead Entity, as well as representatives from the Louisiana District Attorney's Association, National Resource Bank, and local Models for Change sites.

Through extensive research and with input from various stakeholders, the Children's Cabinet has developed a set of recommendations necessary for implementation of a model status offender program. These recommendations have been established through coordination with Systems of Care workgroups and after researching Louisiana laws affecting FINS. Recommended areas of reform have been summarized in reports and presentations have been made to Systems of Care workgroups as well as to Governor's Office staff.

As part of the ongoing coordination occurring between the Children's Cabinet grant and Rapides Parish, the Children's Cabinet visited a model status offender program in Gainesville, Florida, December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. This site visit will motivate the process of determining which programmatic areas of reform are necessary for Louisiana to implement a model status offender program.

One area identified in the reform efforts to establish a model status offender system is education due diligence. Due to the alarming rate of school referrals to FINS offices which often initiates the pipeline into the juvenile justice system, the Children's Cabinet has researched model state legislation and policies as well as Rapides Parish local reform efforts. This research was summarized into forms and presentations to the Department of Education. The Children's Cabinet plans to work closely with the Department of Education in 2011 to help them develop policies as it relates to out of school referrals to FINS offices.

Louisiana law requires that each judicial district create a Children and Youth Planning Board to address the many issues and needs of at risk children and youth. Local planning boards are expected to assist in the assessment, alignment, coordination, prioritization, and measurement of all available services and programs that address the needs of children and youth in the community. As part of its work through the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change grant, the Children's Cabinet has established two primary objectives. First to understand the current state of development of these boards across the state and determine each board's needs for formation, assistance, and growth. Secondly, the Children's Cabinet will develop a technical assistance plan that promotes the creation and maturation of Children and Youth Planning Boards through outreach, training, and technical assistance. To achieve these objectives the Children's Cabinet, with the assistance of National Resource Bank members, developed and administered a new annual reporting template.

In September, the Children's Cabinet hosted a North Louisiana Summit in Caddo Parish. Stakeholders representing a host of Louisiana Models for Change grantees including the Office of Juvenile Justice, LSU Health Sciences Center, and Jefferson Parish Department of Juvenile Services travelled to Caddo Parish to train local stakeholders on Evidence Based Practices, Information Sharing, and other juvenile justice reform efforts. This

meeting was very successful and provided other Louisiana grantees with an opportunity to share model products and lessons learned with stakeholders across the state.

## ***LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS AND PROJECTS***

### ***Children and Youth Planning Boards***

In addition to cross agency initiatives, the Executive Director of the Children's Cabinet is statutorily charged with assisting the local Children and Youth Planning Boards (CYPB) to initiate and sustain their mission. To further promote the intent of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2003, the Children and Youth Planning Boards (CYPBs) were created by Act 555 of the 2004 Regular Session to address the many issues and needs of at-risk children and youth at the local level. The purpose of the Children and Youth Planning Boards is to assist in the assessment, alignment, coordination, prioritization, and measurement of all available services and programs that address the needs of children and youth. This includes children and youth at risk for, or identified with, social, emotional, or developmental problems, such as educational failure, abuse, neglect, exposure to violence, juvenile or parental mental illness, juvenile or parental substance abuse, poverty, developmental disabilities and delinquency. The boards are intended to encourage collaborative efforts among local stakeholders for assessing the physical, social, behavioral, and educational needs of children and youth in their respective communities and for assisting in the development of comprehensive plans to address such needs. The infrastructure for planning is intended to be data-driven in order to select appropriate evidence-based programs which will maximize available resources.

Revised Statute §46:1941.8, requires that each Children and Youth Planning Board completes an annual report. This new format is designed help the Children's Cabinet gain a better understanding of the status and needs of each planning board and allows the Children's Cabinet to more efficiently meet its statutory charge to provide outreach, training, and technical assistance to local planning boards. The new format includes seven sections focusing on the board's structure, local information sharing, community needs, program and service availability, and areas of technical assistance that are available through the Children's Cabinet. The new reporting format was released on August 30<sup>th</sup> and has resulted in a record number of annual reports submitted to the Office of the Governor. Currently, the Children's Cabinet is in the process of analyzing the report results which will be used to develop a plan to engage boards and provide technical assistance.

In September, the Children's Cabinet in conjunction with the Caddo Parish Children and Youth Planning Board hosted a North Louisiana Summit in Caddo Parish. All active Boards in north Louisiana were invited to participate. Additionally, community leaders in parishes with non-existent or inactive boards were invited to attend the summit. The summit included workshops of CYPB legislation and requirements, lessons on implementing, organizing and sustaining CYPB, an overview of the Models for Change toolkit created for CYPB, introduction to evidence based practices and introduction to local information sharing. The summit provided excellent networking opportunities for

all participants. The Jefferson Parish CYPB chairperson also led a strategic planning session with the Caddo Parish board.

In March, Karen Stubbs presented at the annual Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice. The workshop touched on all areas of children and youth planning boards. Karen Stubbs presented at the Juvenile and Family Court Judges Association annual conference in June. The presentation was entitled the "Development of a Viable Planning Board". The CYPB toolkit was also presented and distributed. Karen Stubbs spoke at two local planning board meetings in the 16<sup>th</sup> JDC and Orleans Parish to offer individualized assistance.

#### Local Information Sharing Initiative

Initiated by the Louisiana *Models for Change* Lead Entity and their grantees, a cross-agency information sharing team was established to educate on the benefits of information sharing on an individual local level. The group's purpose is to develop a plan to educate at a community level on the importance of information sharing and how to remain in compliance with privacy and confidentiality laws when providing individual level data. The Director of the Children's Cabinet is working with Jefferson Parish's *Models for Change* Evidence-Based Practice Coordinator, John Ryals. The work group attended a training session sponsored by *Models for Change* in November, 2009. The group distinguished between providing sessions as an "orientation" on information sharing and actual "training" on information sharing. The orientation will focus on educating beginners who are not familiar with terms or concepts of information sharing. The trainings will be geared for districts that are familiar with the concept but need technical assistance. The Children's Cabinet Executive Director co-presented on the basic concepts of information sharing at the annual Families in Need of Services Conference in April. Additionally, the September CYPB north Louisiana summit organized by the Children's Cabinet included a workshop assisted by Jefferson Parish on local information sharing. In December 2010, John Ryals and Karen Stubbs met with SSA Consulting, another *Models for Change* grantee, to create an outreach strategy on this topic for 2011.

### ***CHILDREN'S CABINET ADVISORY BOARD***

#### Overview

The Children's Cabinet Advisory Board was created under RS 46:2605. The purpose of the advisory board is to provide information and recommendations from the perspective of advocacy groups, service providers, and parents. The board consists of 42-45 statutorily authorized representatives from state agencies, advocacy groups, and the community. For the advisory board's accomplishments and specific goals and priorities for the next fiscal year, the Children's Cabinet will defer to the Advisory Board's annual report to the legislature, Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee on Health and Welfare, and Select Committee on Women and Children.

#### Membership, as of December 31, 2010

- **Janice Allen**, member of the Louisiana Catholic Conference

- **Susan Batson**, representative of the Department of Education, representing special education
- **David Benada**, representative of Louisiana Children’s Advocacy Centers
- **Cindy Bishop**, member of the Louisiana Assembly on School-Based Health Care
- **Carol Calix**, representative of Families Helping Families
- **Michael Coogan**, representative from the Louisiana Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics
- **Richard Dalton**, designee of the president of the Louisiana Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
- **Denise Fair**, Department of Children and Family Services
- **Kathy Kliebert**, assistant secretary of the Office of Behavioral Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals
- **Janie Martin**, representative from the Louisiana Maternal and Child Health Coalition
- **Lynda Gavioli**, representative of the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families
- **Stewart Gordon**, designee of the chief executive officer of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, health care services division
- **Don Gregory**, director of the Bureau of Health Services Financing of the Department of Health and Hospitals
- **Girard Melancon**, assistant secretary of the Office of Juvenile Justice of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections
- **Kim Manning**, representative of the Division of Administration
- **Judy Harrison**, representative from Louisiana Children’s Trust Fund
- **Mary Louise Jones**, representative of the Department of Education, representing academic programs, including early childhood
- **Jennifer Karle**, representative of the Louisiana Association of Childcare Agencies
- **Lyn Hassenboehler**, member of the Louisiana Families In Need Of Services Association
- **Julia Kenny**, assistant secretary of the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities of the Department of Health and Hospitals
- **George Murray**, representative from Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- **Jennifer Kopke**, assistant secretary of the Office of Mental Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals
- **Rhonda Litt**, representative of the Louisiana Primary Care Association
- **Myra Magee**, parent representative
- **Loren Marks**, parent representative
- **Johnny Riley**, representative of the Louisiana Workforce Commission
- **Geoffrey Nagle**, representative of the Institute of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health at Tulane University
- **Donna Nola-Ganey**, representative of the Department of Education, representing educational support programs including secondary vocational education
- **Jerry Pinsel**, designee of the president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System

- **Frankie Robertson**, member of the Louisiana Chapter of the March of Dimes
- **Patricia Robinson**, parent representative
- **Ronald Rossitto**, representative of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Advisory Board
- **Kahree Wahid**, director of the State Head Start Collaboration Project
- **Judith Watts**, representative from Agenda for Children
- **Carmen Weisner**, representative of the National Association of Social Workers
- **Rebecca White**, representative from Louisiana State University, Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service
- **Clayton Williams**, assistant secretary of the Office of Public Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals
- **Ann Williamson**, representative of the Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations
- **John Wyble**, member of the Louisiana Court-Appointed Special Advocate Association

#### *Budget Recommendations to the Children's Cabinet*

One of the primary objectives of the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board is to offer recommendations to the Children's Cabinet on funding and budget priorities. To accomplish this objective, the Advisory Board has implemented a two-step process. The first step is an initial budget retreat to articulate general budget priorities so that state agencies can have a unified focus when building their children's budgets. This process must be completed by August 31.

In the second step, state entities that provide programs or services to youth present their specific programs and initiatives to the Advisory Board that address the general priorities. These presentations focus on the budget needs of the program and the Advisory Board votes as to which specific priority budget programs to recommend to the Children's Cabinet to support in the Children's Budget. The specific budget priority recommendations from the Advisory Board are presented to the Cabinet by November 30. The complete report is attached.

#### ***CHILDREN'S CABINET DIRECTOR'S UPDATE***

In order to coordinate and focus programs from federal, state, and local sources, the Executive Director (ED) of the Children's Cabinet, Karen Stubbs, stays informed about and attends meetings related to early childhood health and education, delinquency prevention and diversion, the judiciary, child protection, mental illness, substance abuse, school-based programs and other services provided to children and families. The ED is appointed by the Governor to serve on the Louisiana Commission on Marriage and Families, Child Poverty Prevention Council, Task Force on Legal Representation in Child Protection Cases, Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management and Women's Policy and Research Commission in addition to the Children's Cabinet. As a member of the Women's Commission, Ms. Stubbs researched and presented on the National Girls Collaborative Project and drafted a local women's commission toolkit to

assist local governing authorities to establish women's commissions. The ED is a member of the governance committee for the systems of care multiagency initiative headed by DCFS and chaired the Family Engagement Committee and two subcommittees for the governance group. The ED is a member of the Children's Justice Act Task Force (DSS) and the federal Children and Family Services Review led by DCFS where she contributed by creating a traveling display board showing their mission, partners and work. The ED is a contributing member of the Children's Advocacy Resource Effort (CARE) advisory committee, Children's Law Advocacy Resources Online (CLARO) steering committee, Louisiana Children's Code Committee, early childhood BrightStart Steering Committee, and the Detention Standards Task Force where she serves on two subcommittees. The director participates on the Family Impact Seminar organizational committee. The Director also works closely with the *Models for Change* Initiatives such as Mental Health Juvenile Justice Action Network and Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network (JIDAN). The Director follows other youth-related organizations such as the Legislative Youth Advisory Board, Covering Kids and Families, the Louisiana Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys and generally attends, for informational purposes, all youth-related initiative meetings. The Director also participates in a monthly National Children's Cabinet network conference call organized by the Forum for Youth Investment. In order to stay up to date on current issues and trends around children and youth, the ED attends trainings such as an Adolescent Development Training provided by MacArthur Foundation, Louisiana District Attorney's Association (LDAA) Graduated Sanctions Training and the LDAA and Juvenile Judges joint summit.

#### ***ATTACHMENTS***

February 2010 Children's Cabinet meeting minutes  
October 2010 Children's Cabinet unapproved minutes  
Budget Priority Report to the Children's Cabinet

**Children's Cabinet Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 2010**  
**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.**  
**Governor's Press Room**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

***Call to Order:***

The meeting was called to order by Karen Stubbs.

***Welcome and Introduction of Members:***

Karen Stubbs, Kim Dodd for Angele Davis, Kristy Nichols, Elly Peterson for Dr. Mary Livers, Donna Nola-Ganey for Paul Pastorek, and Dr. Stewart Gordon

***Interested Parties Present:***

Ashley Herad (LANO), Janet Kearney (Jefferson Delegation), Jonie Smith (LWC), Kasandra Woods (OAD), Petrouchka Moise (Governor's Office of Community Programs), Samjah Saulsberry (LWC), Sandra Adams (BrightStart), Sean Labas (OJJ), Tammy Woods (Governor's Office), Teresa Falgoust (Agenda for Children)

***Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:***

No quorum existed for approval of December minutes.

***Presentation on Coordinated Systems of Care by Ms. Shannon Robshaw, Project Manager, Systems of Care***

Coordinated Systems of Care is an initiative of Governor Jindal being led by the Office of Juvenile Justice, Department of Social Services, Department of Health and Hospitals, and the Department of Education. The coordinated systems of care (CSOC) is an evidence-based model that is part of a national movement to develop family driven and youth guided care, keep children at home, in school, and out of the child welfare and juvenile justice system. An important CSOC goal is the reduction of highly restrictive out of home placements through the creation and maintenance of coordinated and effective community based services. CSOCs also create partnerships with public and private providers of services that target children, youth and their families in a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary system of services. Currently, the needs of these children and families are served through a fragmented service delivery model that is not well coordinated and is often times difficult to navigate. State Departments are not currently pooling resources and leveraging the 'smartest' financing to provide a coordinated system of behavioral health services. The proposed system must develop and finance services and supports for at risk children and youth to keep them in their families and schools, out of detention and achieve optimal health and functioning in community settings. Comprehensively provide for the behavioral health needs of at risk children and youth and their caretakers by reinvesting current funds in the system into a more organized system of care. Louisiana's CSOC will initially serve children and youth that have significant behavioral health

challenges or co-occurring disorders that are in or at imminent risk of out of home placement. The planning process is designed to ensure transparency and communication between state departments and key stakeholders which include providers, legislators, community based organizations, advocacy organizations and judicial partners.

***Presentation on Data Sharing by Mr. John Morris, Technical Assistance Collaborative, Inc.***

Mr. John Morris gave a presentation on data sharing as it relates to the Children's Cabinet Models for Change grant award. There are 3 levels of sharing: Individual client or family (e.g. for cross-agency case planning/coordination); Program or service level (e.g. for evaluating program or service impact on groups served); and State or cross-agency level (e.g. for systems design and planning). The Cabinet will focus on the highest level data sharing at the cross agency level. Mr. Morris discussed South Carolina's infrastructure on data sharing as an example. Trends driving data sharing are a focus on data driven decision making and increased use of evidence based practices that focus on outcomes. Three types of decisions will need to be made: policy, legal and technical. The first policy question the Cabinet needs to discuss is the selection of target population or project to provide grounding for design work. Mr. Morris suggested putting a face on the data to keep focused, however, the capacity building that's included in this grant will apply no matter which data set is used. It was suggested by meeting participants to collaborate with the current coordinated systems of care target population since they will be doing data sharing at that level. This could be a great initial data set since momentum and work has already begun and would greatly benefit from this grant.

***Next Steps***

Secretary Nichols requested we present this information to the Advisory Board to get their opinion on the initial data population to use and the possible coordination with the systems of care initiative. Ms. Shannon Robshaw will present the initiative at the next Advisory Board meeting on March 9, 2010.

***Meeting Adjourned***

**The Governor's Children's Cabinet Advisory Board  
Children's Budget Recommendations to the Children's  
Cabinet**

**November 2010**

**The Governor's Children's Cabinet Advisory Board  
Children's Budget Recommendations to the Children's Cabinet  
November 2010**

**Introduction**

One of the primary objectives of the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board is to offer recommendations to the Children's Cabinet on funding and budget priorities. To accomplish this objective, the Advisory Board has implemented a two step process. The first step is an initial budget retreat to articulate general budget priorities so that state agencies can have a unified focus when building their children's budget. The second step occurs in November when the state agencies present their specific programs and initiatives to the Advisory Board that address the general priority categories. This report details the results of this process and provides specific priority program recommendations from the Advisory Board for continued and/or increased support in the upcoming budget.

The Advisory Board completed the first step of the budget recommendations process by agreeing on six broad budget priorities for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. These priorities are:

- Behavioral health
- BrightStart initiatives for early childhood
- Prevention and early intervention services
- Transitional needs of children throughout systems
- Parenting education and family support
- Disengaged youth (including workforce development and education initiatives)

The primary state entities that provide programs or services that address at least one of the six budget priorities as identified by the Advisory Board were then invited to make presentations. These presentations were focused on the budget needs of the program and performance measures or outcome data that were available. Presentations were provided by:

- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Hospitals
- Department of Children and Family Services
- Office of Juvenile Justice

After the presentations, the Advisory Board deliberated, voted, and identified the priority programs within each of the six budget priority areas.

## **Recommendations**

The following programs were identified as the priority programs for funding by the Children's Cabinet Advisory Board and are listed in order of the Advisory Board's recommended priorities.

### **Behavioral Health**

**Mental Health Community Services for Youth** – The Office of Behavioral Health provides mental health community services which include clinic services and a wide array of contracted services including residential, supportive living, family support and respite services, day programs and crisis services.

**School Based Health Centers** – Health services are provided to school aged children by physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, and licensed mental health professionals in School Based Health Centers (SBHC).

**MST** – Multi Systemic Therapy is an intensive in-home program operated by Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) and Department of Children and Family Services.

### **BrightStart Initiatives for Early Childhood**

**Child Care Quality Rating System** – The Department of Children and Family Services' child care quality rating system is a tiered bonus payment system issued to qualified Class A child care centers that have earned a star rating and that care for children receiving assistance for the Child Care Assistance Program in accordance with the star level rating for each quarter.

**Nurse Family Partnership** – This program is led by the Office of Public Health. It is a prenatal and early childhood home visiting intervention designed to improve the health and social functioning of low-income first-time mothers and their babies. Numerous studies have documented the effectiveness of this program model including significant decreases in child abuse and neglect, childhood injuries, subsequent pregnancy, welfare and food stamp utilization.

**LA 4 Pre-K Program** – An early childhood education and enrichment program for four-year-old children designed to increase their success later in school.

### **Prevention and Early Intervention Services**

**Medicaid Services** – The Louisiana Medicaid Program operates within Department of Health and Hospitals and is administered by the Bureau of Health Services Financing. Its mission is to finance and oversee access to comprehensive, quality health care in order to improve the health outcomes for eligible low income citizens.

**Early Childhood Supports and Services** – Early Childhood Supports and Services (ECSS) under the Office of Behavioral Health is a prevention and intervention program

with an interagency process as one of its key operating principles. ECSS provides a variety of supports and services, which include mental health intervention for young children and their families.

**Maternal and Child Health Program** – This program provides preventative health interventions for pregnant women and children statewide.

### **Transitional Needs of Children Throughout Systems**

**School Based Health Centers** – Health services are provided to school aged children by physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, and licensed mental health professionals in School Based Health Centers (SBHC).

**Residential Facility Board Payment Program** – Because many foster children have very complex needs and extremely challenging behaviors that make it impossible for them to be cared for in a family setting, Department of Children and Family Services operates the Residential Facility Board Payment Program. These children require the structured environment and intensive treatment of a residential treatment care setting or psychiatric hospitalization.

**Residential Programming** – This OJJ program provides out of home placement for youth in non-secure residential treatment facilities.

### **Parenting Education and Family Support**

**Temporary Assistance to Needy Families** - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) statewide initiatives provide opportunities to assist needy families who meet the program eligibility requirements to obtain services in the area of education and literacy, employment and family stability.

**Nurse Family Partnership** – This program is led by the Office of Public Health. It is a prenatal and early childhood home visiting intervention designed to improve the health and social functioning of low-income first-time mothers and their babies. Numerous studies have documented the effectiveness of this program model including significant decreases in child abuse and neglect, childhood injuries, subsequent pregnancy, welfare and food stamp utilization.

**Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program** – Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) is the major hunger prevention and nutrition program in Louisiana. It promotes the general welfare and safeguards the health and well being of individuals by raising levels of nutrition among low income households.

### **Disengaged Youth**

**Career and Technical Education** – This program prepares all youth with the education and technical skills needed for successful employment in various careers and professions.

Students are prepared to join the workforce or continue their education at the post-secondary level.

**IDEA Education Services** - IDEA Education Services for special populations provides funds to ensure children with disabilities have access to a free appropriate public education to meet each child's unique needs and prepare each child for further education, employment and independent living.

**High School Initiatives** – The High School Initiatives program's mission is to redesign high school programs to create rigorous academic and career pathways enabling all Louisiana youth to graduate from high school college and career ready.